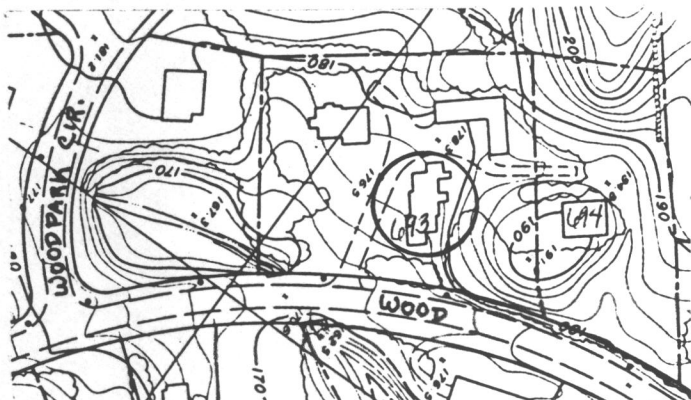


FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

005900058E

Maynard

693

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 148 Wood St.

Historic Name Ballard Place/Schumacher Farm

Uses: Present Multi-Family Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1876

Source Lexington Valuation lists

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Vinyl Siding

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage, converted barn, tool shed

Major Alterations (with dates)

Addition to side ell, rear addition (1900–1910), barn converted to residence (date unknown)

Condition Fair

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 1.5 A.

Setting Off a heavily-trafficked street with woods behind the house and garage

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) March 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

148 Wood St. is one of a number of three-bay side-gabled center entrance Italianate farmhouses in Lexington, though because it has been sided and had many additions, has less integrity than most other examples. The original house is rectangular with a side ell, 2½ stories, three-by-two bays, and side-gabled with two rear chimneys. It is set on a brick foundation, clad with vinyl siding, and roofed with asphalt shingles. The large side ell begins on a brick foundation but is primarily on fieldstone. It is also 2½ stories, side-gabled with a rear chimney, four-by-two bays, and has a double entrance. At the rear are two more additions: a shed-roofed one-story and a front-gabled 1½-story. The main entry is under a pedimented roof supported by Tuscan posts; windows are 2/2 double hung sash. Behind the house is an L-shaped nine-bay garage, a recent gambrel-roofed tool shed, and, across the driveway, a 1½-story barn also clad with vinyl siding that has been converted to a residence. The large, architecturally significant "Schumacher Barn" on a hill behind the house is now on a separate lot with the address 160 Wood St. (MHC #694).

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

The Schumacher farmhouse was built in 1876 by a Daniel Mullen, for Mullen purchased the land with no buildings on it in 1875 but in 1877 was assessed for a house as well as the land. Mullen lost the property in a mortgage foreclosure in 1879, however, and it was then acquired by Joseph Ballard (1823–1895). After Joseph's death the farm was acquired by his son Ernest K. Ballard. The latter put the additions on the house, increased the size of the farm from 15 to 44 acres, and built many of the outbuildings including a piggery for the swine he began to raise at the turn of the century. In 1941 Ballard sold the farm to August Schumacher, the father of the present owner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society.

Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913. 2: 20–21.

Lexington Valuation Lists. 1875–1900, 1910.

Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. Cambridge, MA. 1358: 295; 1502: 332; 1502: 335; 1507: 326; 1658: 473; 2626: 130; 3339: 156; 4185: 138; 6514: 23, plan.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*